



Weeds and Pesticides

DID YOU KNOW ?

It has been estimated that an average acre of a well maintained urban lawn receives an annual input of five to seven pounds of pesticides

What Can You Do?

- Maintain a healthy lawn by mowing frequently, with sharp blades set at 2 ½ to 3 inches
- Evaluate if a pesticide is necessary
- Spot treat weed and insect areas
- Practice hand-weeding
- Use mulches to reduce weeds
- Learn to live with a few weeds!

If you determine a pesticide is necessary, REMEMBER:

- don't buy more than you need
- only apply what is necessary
- do not apply in the rain (unless specified)
- never apply on bare ground or near wells, ponds, streams, etc.
- never dump excess pesticides on the ground or into the storm sewer
- consider sharing leftovers (in their original containers) with neighbors
- when a container is empty, rinse three times (each time pouring into a sink)
- use a Clean Sweep Program to dispose of pesticides and containers properly



Consider **Integrated Pest Management** - a decision-making process for managing pests and the damage they cause. Is your lawn contractor using Integrated Pest Management?

Does the landscaper spend time just looking at the lawn and garden?

Does he or she ask you about your lawn's history?

Does he or she suggest different plants for problem areas?

Does the landscaper spray insecticides on a regular schedule as a preventative without scouting or a history of infestation?

This information is provided for use and dissemination by NEWS. Contact us with any questions.

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